

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary _ Public

Date: 6/20/2011

GAIN Report Number: VE1151

Venezuela

Post: Caracas

Meat price increase is published in the Official Gazette

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Livestock and Products

Approved By:

Randall Hager

Prepared By:

Clara Nuñez

Report Highlights:

The Government has recently adjusted controlled prices of beef after almost three years without change. Some ranchers and private sector representatives feel that the price increase of about 30 percent is not enough.

General Information:**Meat prices increase is published at the Official Gazette**

New consumer meat prices have been published in Official Gazette No. 39,698 dated June 17, 2011. The same Gazette notice also establishes new producer prices. The joint Resolution from the Ministries of Planning and Finance, Commerce, Agriculture and Lands, Food, Science and Technology and Intermediary Industries fixes a Maximum Retail Price and Maximum Sales Price paid to producer and wholesaler of meat products.

According to the text of this Resolution, a kilogram of 1st class beef now costs Bs 22.74, a kilogram of 2nd class beef costs Bs 15.38, and a kilogram of 3rd class beef will cost Bs 13.12. The increase of a kilogram of prime beef is equivalent to 29.20 percent, as the price had been fixed at Bs 17.60 until Monday. The Gazette also presents new producer prices. Live cattle will be valued at Bs 7.10 per kilogram, a kilogram of carcass will cost Bs 13.67, and a kilogram of carcass meat paid to wholesaler will have a value of Bs 14.36.

After almost three years without review, this adjustment by the government for meat and live cattle is felt by some ranchers and private sector representatives to be not enough.

Source: Industry representatives, media reports, and the Official Gazette